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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/955,919	09/19/2001	Drew A. Pappas	7784-000302	9713

27572 7590 03/03/2004

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EXAMINER

HARVEY, JAMES R

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2833

DATE MAILED: 03/03/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/955,919

Applicant(s)

PAPPAS ET AL.

Examiner

James R. Harvey

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 07 November 2003.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 12 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 19 September 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

- The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

**** Claim(s) 1-3 and 7-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by**

International Publication Number WO 00/14987 ('987).

-- In reference to claim 1, '987 shows (Page 17, lines 20-24 and Page 18, lines 1-8 wherein line 2 emphasis "connector combinations")

a housing 30 (figure 2) forming an integral portion of a seat within the mobile platform, wherein the seat comprises a seat cushion, a seat frame and a seat armrest (230, figure 2);

a first networking port (page 18, line 2 "USB") disposed in the housing and adapted to couple the portable electronic device to the intranet for providing intranet connectivity of the portable electronic device;

a power port (page 18, line 7) disposed in the housing that can be adapted to receive a DC power cable of the portable electronic device for providing power to the portable electronic device.

-- In reference to Claim(s) 2, '987 shows the USB port.

-- In reference to Claim(s) 3, '987 shows the RJ-45 port (page 36, line 15).

-- In reference to Claim(s) 7, '987 shows the intranet is in communication with an internet (figure 6).

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-- In reference to claim 8, '987 shows (figure 2)

a housing 30 forming an integral portion of a seat within the mobile platform to be readily accessible by an occupant of the seat while the occupant is seated in the seat ,

wherein the seat comprises a seat cushion, a seat frame and a seat armrest (figure 2);

a first networking port (a USB) disposed in the housing and adapted to couple the portable electronic device to the intranet for providing intranet connectivity of the portable electronic device, wherein the intranet is located on-board the mobile platform (figure 2);

a second networking port comprising an RJ-45 port (page 36, line 15) disposed in the housing adapted to couple the portable electronic device to the intranet for providing intranet connectivity of the portable electronic device: and

a power port disposed in the housing that can be adapted to receive a DC power cable of the portable electronic device for providing power to the portable electronic device.

-- In reference to claim 9, it is rejected in the same manner as described in claim 7 above.

-- In reference to claim 10, '987 shows (figure 3)

a housing connected to a seat of the aircraft to be readily accessible by an occupant of the seat while the occupant is seated in the seat ,

wherein the seat comprises a seat cushion, a seat frame and a seat armrest (figure 3);

a first networking port comprising a USB is disposed in the housing and adapted to couple the portable electronic device to the intranet for providing intranet connectivity of the portable electronic device, wherein the intranet is located on-board the mobile platform (figure 2);

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a second networking port comprising an RJ-45 port disposed in the housing adapted to couple the portable electronic device to the intranet for providing intranet connectivity of the portable electronic device: and

a power port disposed in the housing that can be adapted to receive a DC power cable of the portable electronic device for providing power to the portable electronic device.

-- In reference to Claim(s) 11, '987 shows the housing 30 comprises a cable 270 (figure 3).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

- The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

** Claim(s) 4 and 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over '987.

-- In reference to Claim(s) 4, '987 shows substantially the invention as claimed. However, '987 does not discuss the voltage of the power supply.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to select a particular voltage of '987's power supply to be complimentary to the intended use of the laptop computer or in compliant with aviation standards because choosing the appropriate power voltage will prevent the wrong voltage from damaging the equipment attached to the power supply.

-- In reference to Claim(s) 5, '987 shows substantially the invention as claimed. However, '987 does not show the power port is a multi-pin power connector.

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It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to choose to have the power supply of '987 be a multi-pin power supply because choosing one pin to be power pin, another pin to be the ground pin, and yet another pin to be neutral pin reduces the probability of someone becoming electrified while using the electronic equipment that is electrically connected to the power supply.

** Claim(s) 6 is/are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over '987 in view of Kinsey (6637166).

-- In reference to Claim(s) 6, '987 shows substantially the invention as claimed. However, '987 does not discuss that the power port and the networking port are disposed in a common wall of the housing. In the same manner, '987 does not discuss putting the power port at any other location differing from the common wall of the housing.

However, even if '987 did discuss a different location other than the common wall, Kinsey teaches (column 1, lines 60-62) that a need exists for arrangements where networking ports and power ports are arranged together on a common wall (figure 3).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the teaching of Kinsey to modify the invention of '987 and place the power port and networking port on the same wall of the housing because as taught by Kinsey (column 1, line 63) the arrangement are needed to provide electrical power and signal functions more efficiently.

Response to Arguments

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-- Applicant's arguments filed in response to the previous office action have been considered, but they are moot in view of the new grounds of rejection.

Allowable Subject Matter

- Claim(s) 12 has(have) allowable subject matter.
- Claim(s) 12 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.
- The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: The claim as a whole including the limitation of a base housing 110 and a cable 112 between the base housing 110 and the housing 10 is not taught in the prior art.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee (if the application should become allowable) and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee (if the application should become allowable). Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowable Subject Matter (Allowance)."

Conclusion

- Effective May 1, 2003, the United States Patent and Trademark Office has a new Commissioner for Patents address. Correspondence in patent related matters must now be addressed to:
Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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For additional information regarding the new address, see Correspondence with the United States Patent and Trademark Office, 68 Fed. Reg. 14332 (March 25, 2003).

- Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the mailing date of this final action.

- Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to James R. Harvey whose telephone number is 571-272-2007. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 A.M. To 5:00 P.M.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Paula A. Bradley can be reached on 571-272-2800 extension 33.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 571-272-2800.

- Effective **October 1, 2003**, all patent application related correspondence transmitted by facsimile must be directed to the central facsimile number, **(703) 872-9306**, with a few

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exceptions *See Fax Automation in Technology Center 1700, 1237 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 140*

(August 29, 2000). Replies to Office actions including after-final amendments that are

transmitted by facsimile must be directed to the central facsimile number. Unofficial

correspondence such as draft proposed amendments for interviews may continue to be

transmitted by facsimile to the Technology Centers. *See Fax Automation in Technology Center*

1700, 1237 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 140 (August 29, 2000).

James R. Harvey, Examiner

jrh

February 24, 2004



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PRIMARY EXAMINER